CLAIMS

1. An image interpolation system for interpolating the gaps between the lines forming an image, comprising:

a virtual interpolation data generating means for generating virtual interpolation data of inter-lines between the lines of the input image, based on the input image line data; and

an interpolating means for interpolating the pixels between input image lines, based on the generated virtual interpolation data.

2. An image interpolation system for interpolating the gaps between the lines forming an image, comprising:

a virtual interpolation data generating means for

15 generating virtual interpolation data of inter-lines between
the lines of the input image, based on the input image line
data; and

an interpolating means which, based on the generated virtual interpolation data, generates pre-interpolation pixels on the input image lines, and interpolates the pixels between input image lines above and below by performing mutual operations between pre-interpolation pixels generated on the input image lines above and below.

25 3. An image interpolation system for interpolating the gaps

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between the lines forming an image, comprising:

a virtual interpolation data generating means for generating virtual interpolation data of inter-lines between the lines of the input image, based on the input image line data;

an interpolation segment determining means for determining segments to be interpolated between the input image lines and the direction of interpolation, based on the generated virtual interpolation data; and

an interpolating means which generates

pre-interpolation pixels on the input image lines, based on
the generated virtual interpolation data and the determined
data of the segments to be interpolated, determined by the
interpolation segment determining means, and interpolates
the pixels between input image lines based on the generated
pre-interpolation pixels.

4. The image interpolation system according to Claim 3, wherein the interpolation segment determining means comprises: a search condition setup means for setting up a pattern search range; a matching pattern condition setup means for setting up matching pattern conditions; and a first matching pattern searching means for searching for matching patterns based on the conditions designated by the search condition setup means and by the matching pattern condition

setup means.

- The image interpolation system according to Claim 3, 5. wherein the interpolation segment determining means comprises: a search condition setup means for setting up a 5 pattern search range; a matching pattern condition setup means for setting up matching pattern conditions; a first matching pattern searching means for searching matching patterns based on the conditions designated by the search condition setup means and by the matching pattern condition setup means; a 10 directional vector extracting means for extracting the direction of the vector of the detected matching patterns; and a second matching pattern searching means for searching for matching patterns existing in the extracted direction 15 of the vector, based on the conditions designated by the search condition setup means and by the matching pattern condition setup means.
- 6. The image interpolation system according to Claim 1, wherein the virtual interpolation data generated by the virtual interpolation data generating means is constructed of units of pixel-rows of data.
- 7. The image interpolation system according to Claim 2, 25 wherein the virtual interpolation data generated by the

virtual interpolation data generating means is constructed of units of pixel-rows of data.

- 8. The image interpolation system according to Claim 3,
 5 wherein the virtual interpolation data generated by the
 virtual interpolation data generating means is constructed
 of units of pixel-rows of data.
- The image interpolation system according to Claim 4,
 wherein the virtual interpolation data generated by the virtual interpolation data generating means is constructed of units of pixel-rows of data.
- 10. The image interpolation system according to Claim 5, wherein the virtual interpolation data generated by the virtual interpolation data generating means is constructed of units of pixel-rows of data.
- 11. The image interpolation system according to Claim 1,
 20 wherein the virtual interpolation data generating means
 comprises: an inter-pixel operating means for calculating
 the difference in pixel data between the pixels on the
 neighboring input image lines; and a normalizing means for
 classifying the pixels into multiple classes according to
 25 the calculated value of the difference in pixel data; and

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a pattern extracting means for extracting rows of pixels normalized and classified in an identical class as patterns.

- 12. The image interpolation system according to Claim 2, wherein the virtual interpolation data generating means comprises: an inter-pixel operating means for calculating the difference in pixel data between the pixels on the neighboring input image lines; and a normalizing means for classifying the pixels into multiple classes according to the calculated value of the difference in pixel data; and a pattern extracting means for extracting rows of pixels normalized and classified in an identical class as patterns.
- 13. The image interpolation system according to Claim 3,

 15 wherein the virtual interpolation data generating means

 comprises: an inter-pixel operating means for calculating

 the difference in pixel data between the pixels on the

 neighboring input image lines; and a normalizing means for

 classifying the pixels into multiple classes according to

 20 the calculated value of the difference in pixel data; and

 a pattern extracting means for extracting rows of pixels

 normalized and classified in an identical class as patterns.
 - 14. The image interpolation system according to Claim 4, wherein the virtual interpolation data generating means

comprises: an inter-pixel operating means for calculating the difference in pixel data between the pixels on the neighboring input image lines; and a normalizing means for classifying the pixels into multiple classes according to the calculated value of the difference in pixel data; and a pattern extracting means for extracting rows of pixels normalized and classified in an identical class as patterns.

- 15. The image interpolation system according to Claim 5,

 10 wherein the virtual interpolation data generating means

 comprises: an inter-pixel operating means for calculating

 the difference in pixel data between the pixels on the

 neighboring input image lines; and a normalizing means for

 classifying the pixels into multiple classes according to

 15 the calculated value of the difference in pixel data; and

 a pattern extracting means for extracting rows of pixels

 normalized and classified in an identical class as patterns.
- through 10, wherein the virtual interpolation data generating means comprises: an inter-pixel operating means for calculating the difference in pixel data between the pixels on the neighboring input image lines; and a normalizing means for classifying the pixels into multiple classes according to the calculated value of the difference in pixel data; and

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a pattern extracting means for extracting rows of pixels normalized and classified in an identical class as patterns.

- 17. The image interpolation system according to Claim 1, wherein the virtual interpolation data generating means comprises: an inter-pixel operating means for calculating the difference in pixel data between the pixels on the neighboring input image lines; a normalizing means for classifying the pixels into multiple classes according to the calculated value of the difference in pixel data; a pattern extracting means for extracting rows of pixels normalized and classified in an identical class as patterns; and a coring means for judging the patterns extracted on the same line to be interpolated based on the predetermined threshold and editing them.
- 18. The image interpolation system according to Claim 2, wherein the virtual interpolation data generating means comprises: an inter-pixel operating means for calculating the difference in pixel data between the pixels on the neighboring input image lines; a normalizing means for classifying the pixels into multiple classes according to the calculated value of the difference in pixel data; a pattern extracting means for extracting rows of pixels normalized and classified in an identical class as patterns; and a coring

means for judging the patterns extracted on the same line to be interpolated based on the predetermined threshold and editing them.

- 5 19. The image interpolation system according to Claim 3, wherein the virtual interpolation data generating means comprises: an inter-pixel operating means for calculating the difference in pixel data between the pixels on the neighboring input image lines; a normalizing means for 10 classifying the pixels into multiple classes according to the calculated value of the difference in pixel data; a pattern extracting means for extracting rows of pixels normalized and classified in an identical class as patterns; and a coring means for judging the patterns extracted on the same line 15 to be interpolated based on the predetermined threshold and editing them.
- 20. The image interpolation system according to Claim 4, wherein the virtual interpolation data generating means comprises: an inter-pixel operating means for calculating the difference in pixel data between the pixels on the neighboring input image lines; a normalizing means for classifying the pixels into multiple classes according to the calculated value of the difference in pixel data; a pattern extracting means for extracting rows of pixels normalized

and classified in an identical class as patterns; and a coring means for judging the patterns extracted on the same line to be interpolated based on the predetermined threshold and editing them.

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- 21. The image interpolation system according to Claim 5, wherein the virtual interpolation data generating means comprises: an inter-pixel operating means for calculating the difference in pixel data between the pixels on the neighboring input image lines; a normalizing means for classifying the pixels into multiple classes according to the calculated value of the difference in pixel data; a pattern extracting means for extracting rows of pixels normalized and classified in an identical class as patterns; and a coring means for judging the patterns extracted on the same line to be interpolated based on the predetermined threshold and editing them.
- 22. The image interpolation system according to Claim 16,
 20 wherein the virtual interpolation data generating means
 comprises: an inter-pixel operating means for calculating
 the difference in pixel data between the pixels on the
 neighboring input image lines; a normalizing means for
 classifying the pixels into multiple classes according to
 25 the calculated value of the difference in pixel data; a pattern

extracting means for extracting rows of pixels normalized and classified in an identical class as patterns; and a coring means for judging the patterns extracted on the same line to be interpolated based on the predetermined threshold and editing them.

- 23. The image interpolation system according to Claim 17, wherein the coring means comprises: an intra-pattern pixel operating means for calculating the average of the pixel differential values of individual pixels in each pattern; and a pattern editing means for judging the average value based on the predetermined threshold and editing patterns.
- 24. The image interpolation system according to Claim 18,

 wherein the coring means comprises: an intra-pattern pixel operating means for calculating the average of the pixel differential values of individual pixels in each pattern; and a pattern editing means for judging the average value based on the predetermined threshold and editing patterns.

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25. The image interpolation system according to Claim 19, wherein the coring means comprises: an intra-pattern pixel operating means for calculating the average of the pixel differential values of individual pixels in each pattern; and a pattern editing means for judging the average value

based on the predetermined threshold and editing patterns.

- 26. The image interpolation system according to Claim 20, wherein the coring means comprises: an intra-pattern pixel operating means for calculating the average of the pixel differential values of individual pixels in each pattern; and a pattern editing means for judging the average value based on the predetermined threshold and editing patterns.
- 27. The image interpolation system according to Claim 21, wherein the coring means comprises: an intra-pattern pixel operating means for calculating the average of the pixel differential values of individual pixels in each pattern; and a pattern editing means for judging the average value based on the predetermined threshold and editing patterns.
 - 28. The image interpolation system according to Claim 22, wherein the coring means comprises: an intra-pattern pixel operating means for calculating the average of the pixel differential values of individual pixels in each pattern; and a pattern editing means for judging the average value based on the predetermined threshold and editing patterns.
- 29. An image interpolation method for interpolating the gaps25 between the lines forming an image, comprising:

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a step of generating virtual interpolation data of inter-lines between the lines of the input image, based on the input image line data; and

a step of interpolating the pixels between input image

5 lines, based on the generated virtual interpolation data.

30. An image interpolation method for interpolating the gaps between the lines forming an image, comprising:

a step of generating virtual interpolation data of

10 inter-lines between the lines of the input image, based on
the input image line data; and

a step of generating pre-interpolation pixels on the input image lines based on the generated virtual interpolation data and interpolating the pixels between input image lines above and below by performing mutual operations between pre-interpolation pixels generated on the input image lines above and below.

31. An image interpolation method for interpolating the gaps20 between the lines forming an image, comprising:

a step of generating virtual interpolation data of inter-lines between the lines of the input image, based on the input image line data;

a step of determining segments to be interpolated between the input image lines and/or the direction of interpolation,

based on the generated virtual interpolation data; and
a step of generating pre-interpolation pixels on the
input image lines, based on the generated virtual
interpolation data and the determined data of the segments
to be interpolated, and interpolating the pixels between input
image lines based on the generated pre-interpolation pixels.